Claims

1. A system by which a provider provides services to clients via computer, said system comprising:

first computing means by which a potential client obtains access to register with the system;

coupled to the first computing means, second computing means partitioned into a plurality of private areas, wherein each private area is dedicated to a single client, other clients not being granted access to said private area; and

coupled to the first computing means and to the second computing means, third computing means to which the provider has access but the clients do not have access.

2. The system of claim 1 wherein the services are legal services.

3. The system of claim 1 wherein the second computing means and the third computing means are part of the same computer.

4. The system of claim 1 wherein the client accesses the first computing means in an online manner.

5. The system of claim 4 wherein the client accesses the first computing means via an open network.

6. The system of claim 1 wherein the client accesses the first computing means in an offline manner.

7. The system of claim 1 wherein the client is remote from at least one of said computing means.

8. The system of claim 1 wherein the provision of services is the formation and organization of a corporation.

9. The system of claim 8 wherein the incorporation is formed according to the laws of Bermuda.

10. The system of claim 1 wherein the first computing means performs at least one of the following functions:

gives answers to frequently asked questions;

allows the client to register with the system;

allows the client to log into the system;

gives the client a demonstration of the system;

allows the client to learn more about the system;

allows the client to download a registration questionnaire;

allows the client to send an e-mail to the provider.

11. The system of claim 1 wherein the second computing means performs at least one of the following functions:

allows the client to fill out a registration questionnaire at least in part;

allows the client to determine the status of the work being performed on the client's behalf by the provider;

allows the client to change the client's user profile.

12. The system of claim 1 wherein the second computing means allows the client to fill out a questionnaire eliciting information regarding the nature of the services appropriate for the client.

13. The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the questionnaire contains means to permit the client to pay for the services performed on the client's behalf.

14. The system of claim 13 wherein a third party, other than the client and the provider, facilitates the payment of the services.

15. The system of claim 12 wherein the client's inputting information into the questionnaire provokes an e-mail message to the provider alerting the provider that an entity wishes to have services performed on the entity's behalf.

16. The system of claim 12 wherein the services are the formation and organization of a corporation, and the questionnaire elicits information concerning at least one of the following:

a corporate name reservation;

an intended business for the corporation;

authorized share capital;

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identification of shareholders;

identification of directors and officers; and

an accounting reference date.

17. The system of claim 12 further comprising means for the client to accept the law of a certain jurisdiction before the questionnaire is forwarded to the provider.

18. The system of claim 1 wherein the provision of services is the provision of legal services, and the legal services can be performed according to the laws of several jurisdictions.

19. The system of claim 1 wherein the provider uses the third computing means to gather and store information relevant to the provision of the services.

20. A method for providing services to clients via computer, said method comprising:

    permitting a potential client to have access to a first computing means to enable said potential client to register with a provider of the services;

    providing a second computing means, coupled to the first computing means, to facilitate a client's access to the services, wherein the second computing means is partitioned into a plurality of private areas, each private area dedicated to a single client, other clients not being granted access to said private area; and

    allocating a third computing means, coupled to the first computing means and to the second computing means, to the provider, wherein the provider has access to the third computing means but the clients do not.

21. The method of claim 20 wherein the services are legal services.

22. The method of claim 20 wherein the second computing means and the third computing means are part of the same computer.

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23. The method of claim 20 wherein the client accesses the first computing means in an on-line manner.

24. The method of claim 23 wherein the client accesses the first computing means via an open network.

25. The method of claim 20 wherein the client accesses the first computing means in an off-line manner.

26. The method of claim 20 wherein the client is remote from at least one of said computing means.

27. The method of claim 20 wherein the provision of services is the formation and organization of a corporation.

28. The method of claim 27 wherein the incorporation is formed according to the laws of Bermuda.

29. The method of claim 20 wherein the first computing means performs at least one of the following functions:

> gives answers to frequently asked questions;
>
> allows the client to register with the provider;
>
> allows the client to log into the second computing means;
>
> gives the client a demonstration of the computerized provision of services;
>
> allows the client to learn more about the computerized provision of services;
>
> allows the client to download a registration questionnaire;
>
> allows the client to send an e-mail to the provider.

30. The method of claim 20 wherein the second computing means performs at least one of the following functions:

> allows the client to fill out a registration questionnaire at least in part;
>
> allows the client to determine the status of the work being performed on the client's behalf by the provider;
>
> allows the client to change the client's user profile.

31. The method of claim 20 wherein the second computing means allows the client to fill out a questionnaire eliciting information regarding the nature of the services appropriate for the client.

32. The method of claim 31 wherein the questionnaire contains means to permit the client to pay for the services performed on the client's behalf.

33. The method of claim 32 wherein a third party, other than the client and the provider, facilitates the payment of the services.

34. The method of claim 31 wherein the client's inputting information into the questionnaire provokes an e-mail message to the provider alerting the provider that an entity wishes to have services performed on the entity's behalf.

35. The method of claim 31 wherein the services are the formation and organization of a corporation, and the questionnaire elicits information concerning at least one of the following:

a corporate name reservation;

an intended business for the corporation;

authorized share capital;

identification of shareholders;

identification of directors and officers; and

an accounting reference date.

36. The method of claim 31 further comprising means for the client to accept the law of a certain jurisdiction before the questionnaire is forwarded to the provider.

37. The method of claim 20 wherein the provision of services is the provision of legal services, and the legal services can be performed according to the laws of several jurisdictions.

38. The method of claim 20 wherein the provider uses the third computing means to gather and store information relevant to the provision of the services.

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39.   A computer readable medium containing computer executable instructions for enabling a provider to provide services to clients, said instructions comprising:

allowing a potential client to obtain access to a first computing means to register with the provider; and

allowing a client to obtain access to a second computing means, coupled to the first computing means, to receive the services, wherein the second computing means is partitioned into a plurality of private areas, each private area being dedicated to a single client, other clients not being granted access to said private area; wherein:

a third computing means is coupled to the first computing means and to the second computing means and is an area to which the provider has access but the clients do not have access.

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